

REMARKS

Claims 1-5 and 7-14 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1, 8, 9, 13 and 14 are amended. No new matter is added. Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Applicants appreciate the courtesies shown to Applicants' representatives by Examiner Singh in the April 19, 2006 personal interview. Applicants' separate record of the substance of the interview is incorporated into the following remarks.

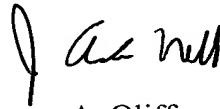
Claims 1, 8, 9, 13 and 14 have been amended as discussed during the April 19 interview. During the interview Applicants' representatives asserted and the Examiner agreed that the proposed claim amendments appear to overcome the currently cited references.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

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In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:JMH

Date: April 25, 2006

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